



# CITY OF FALLS CHURCH

Office of Communications

703-248-5003 (TTY 711)

FAX 703-248-5146

[publicinfo@fallschurchva.gov](mailto:publicinfo@fallschurchva.gov)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**CONTACT:**

**Nicole Gobbo**

**703-248-5210 (TTY 711)**

**Hyun June Lee**

**703-248-5101 (TTY 711)**

## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

### **Falls Church City Celebrates Black History Month**

FALLS CHURCH, VA. – The City of Falls Church honors its African American roots by celebrating February as Black History Month with the following events:

**African American Heritage Story Hour, Wednesday, Feb. 21, 7 p.m.**

**Mary Riley Styles Public Library (120 N. Virginia Ave.)**

Stories about and written by African Americans will be read during this special Story Hour, which also features craft activities and African American heritage booklists for children to continue their readings throughout the month. Story Hour is free. For more information, call 703-248-5030 (TTY 711).

**“Love Letters and Liniment,” Thursday, Feb. 22, Noon**

**Cherry Hill Farmhouse (312 Park Ave.)**

This month’s Cherry Hill Farmhouse Brown Bag Lunch Program recalls the love story of two of the City’s leading civil rights leaders, Mary Ellen and Edwin Henderson. Nikki Graves, curator at Henderson House, will use early 20<sup>th</sup> Century diaries, love letters, and vintage photos to tell the Henderson’s love story. This program is free to the public. Attendees are welcome to bring their own lunch; coffee, tea, and dessert will be provided. Call 703-248-5171 (TTY 711) for reservations.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Black History Celebration and Celebrity Basketball Game, Friday, Feb. 23, 8 p.m.**

**Falls Church Community Center (223 Little Falls St.)**

Edwin Henderson became the first African American male certified to teach Physical Education in public schools and in 1907, he introduced basketball to African Americans in Washington, D.C. To recognize Henderson’s contributions in the field of athletics, the Tinner Hill Heritage Foundation will host the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Black History Celebration and Celebrity Basketball Game, with support from the City of Falls Church. A group of Falls Church residents, business persons, educators, and City officials will take to the hardwood against the world-renowned Harlem MagicMasters. The night also includes a halftime show with an “edutaining” presentation by Bijan Bayne, award-winning journalist and author of the children’s book “Sky Kings: African Americans and the NBA.” The halftime show also features games and giveaways. Admission is free, but space is limited. Call 703-241-4109 for reservations.

The City of Falls Church is committed to the letter and spirit of the Americans with Disabilities Act. To request a reasonable accommodation for any type of disability, call 703-248-5077 (TTY 711).

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